

7. *The South African Cladoceran Euryalona colletti (Sars) and another African species.* By J. P. HARDING, PH.D. British Museum (Natural History). (With four text-figures.)

The original description of the species was by Sars (1895) under the name of *Alonopsis colletti*, and he gives an additional description with further figures in a later work (Sars, 1916), in this case placing the species under the genus *Euryalona*.

The genus *Euryalona* was established by the same author (Sars, 1901) for the South American species *E. occidentalis*, the type species, which may be a synonym of *E. orientalis* described by Daday from Ceylon (Daday, 1898), under the genus *Alonopsis*.

Sars (1916) writes: 'I have convinced myself of the complete identity of the South African and South American forms.' However, this identity has been questioned since then (Brehm, 1935; Gauthier, 1930). This is because in the figures of neither 1895 nor 1916 did Sars show any denticles on the claw of the tail; these are clearly seen forming a comb along the proximal half of the dorsal edge of the claw of the South American specimens (Sars, 1901).

I have recently been examining some specimens belonging to the genus *Euryalona* from Lake Tanganyika, the property of the Musée Royal d'Histoire Naturelle de Belgique, which seem to me to be identical with Sars's type specimens of *E. occidentalis* from Brazil.

Dr. K. H. Barnard has kindly lent me for comparison the type specimens of *E. colletti* from Knysna which are mounted on a single microscope slide among the collections of the South African Museum, Cape Town. Rather to my surprise I find that this species, the first to be described, is quite distinct, the claw of the tail, the labrum and the length of the antennule relative to that of the rostrum being different in the two species. The claw of *E. colletti* has a very strongly developed basal spine which is about half as long as the claw itself (fig. 4) but the basal spine of the claw of *E. occidentalis* is only about as long as the width of the claw (fig. 3). The long basal spine of *E. colletti* has spinules along its outer edge while that of *E. occidentalis* is smooth. *E. occidentalis* has a conspicuous row of spinules forming a comb along the proximal half of the dorsal edge of the claw. These spinules increase in length distally until the terminal one (near the middle of the claw) is about as long as the basal spine. The spinules in a similar position on the claw of *E. colletti* are very much finer and can only be seen with the highest powers of the microscope.

The labrum of *E. colletti* has a very characteristic shape with even curves, and bulges in front (fig. 1). The shape of the labrum of a co-type of *E. occidentalis* from Brazil is shown in fig. 2. There is a curious lateral crease which makes the profile rather irregular. It is, however, very similar in the specimens from Lake Tanganyika, and also is shown in Gauthier's 1930 figure of a specimen

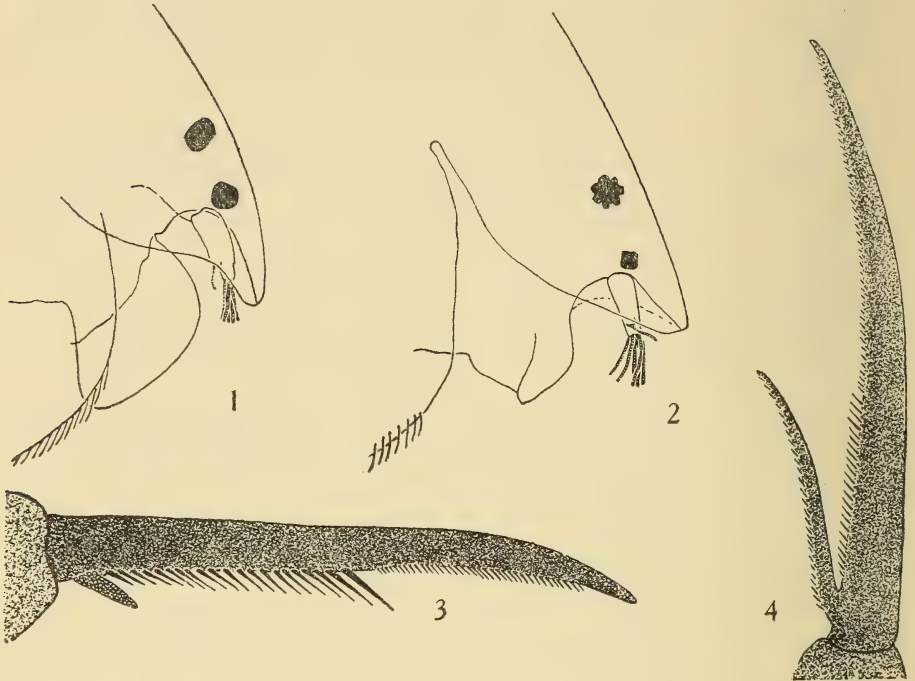


FIG. 1. Head of *Euryalona colletti*, cotype, $\times 85$. FIG. 2. Head of *Euryalona occidentalis*, cotype, $\times 85$. FIG. 3. Claw of the tail of *Euryalona occidentalis*, cotype, $\times 500$. FIG. 4. Claw of the tail of *Euryalona colletti*, cotype, $\times 500$.

from the Sahara. The antennule of *E. occidentalis* reaches almost to the tip of the rostrum but is distinctly shorter in *E. colletti* (figs. 2 and 1 respectively).

Euryalona colletti is known by the type specimens from Knysna in the South African Museum and also by a single specimen from Mahlabatini, Zululand, in the British Museum collected by Mr. James Gibson early this century, and correctly identified by G. S. Brady.

E. occidentalis is known from South America and from East Africa (Daday, 1910, as *E. orientalis*), Kenya (Brehm, 1935), parts of the Sahara region (Gauthier, 1930) and Lake Tanganyika (Harding, 1957).

A third species (which may, however, be identical with *E. occidentalis*) is *E. orientalis*, found in Ceylon (Daday, 1898) and the East Indies (Stingelin, 1904).

REFERENCES

- Brehm, V. 1935. 'Crustacea. I. Cladocera und Euphyllopoda' in: *Mission Sci. de l'Omo. Paris* 2: 141-161, 21 figs.
- Daday, E. 1898. 'Mikroskopische Süßwasserthiere.' *Termes. Fuzetek* 21: 1-123, 55 text-figs.
- 1910. 'Untersuchungen über die Süßwasser-mikrofauna Deutsch-Ostafrikas. Cladocera.' *Zoologica*, Stuttgart 23: (hft. 59) lf. 1-5, 120-158, pls. 6-8, text-fig. 4.
- Gauthier, H. 1930. 'Mission Saharienne Augiéras-Draper 1927-8. Cladocères, Ostracodes, Phyllopoies anostracés et conchostracés.' *Bull. Mus. Hist. nat. Paris* (2) 2: 92-116, 12 figs.
- Harding, J. P. 1957. 'Crustacea: Cladocera.' *Result Sci. Explor. Hydrobiol. Lac Tanganyika*, (1946-47). In the press.
- Sars, G. O. 1895. 'On some South African Entomostraca raised from dried mud.' *Vidensk-Selsk. Skr. Math. Nat. Christiania* no. 8, 1-56, 8 pls.
- 1901. 'Contributions to the knowledge of the Fresh-water Entomostraca of South America as shown by artificial hatching from dried material. Part I, Cladocera.' *Arch. Math. Nat. Christiania* 23, 3: 1-102, 12 pls.
- 1916. 'The Fresh-water Entomostraca of Cape Province (Union of South Africa). Part I, Cladocera.' *Ann. S. Afr. Mus.* 15: 303-351, pls. 29-41.
- Stingelin, T. 1904. 'Untersuchungen über die Cladocerenfauna von Hinterindien, Sumatra, und Java nebst einem Beitrage zur Cladoceren-Kenntnis der Hawaii-Inseln.' *Zool. Jahrb. Syst.* 21, hft. 3: 327-370, pls. 11-13.